ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

7 October 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John F. Blake, Deputy Director for
                   Administration

FROM   :   [   ] History Staff   STAT

SUBJECT   :   CIA History Program
                                                                   STAT
REFERENCE   :   Memorandum by [   ] 30 September
                     1974, same subject

        1. I had not been aware of [   ] memorandum   STAT
until after the fact, and I wish to dissociate myself from it.

        2. It had been my expectation to continue working on
the history of CIA's involvement in Vietnam until mandatory
retirement, 30 June 1976. The assignment is intensely inter-
esting, and I have useful qualifications for it, including
two degrees in History (AB and MA from Stanford) and, more to
the point, a 26-month tour in Vietnam (1962-64) as well as
tours at Headquarters and [   ] during both of which I   STAT
worked full time on Vietnam from different vantage points.
Moreover, I believe it would be useful to have this history
on file in the hope of learning lessons from the successes
and failures of the past.

        3. It will certainly not be possible to finish the
Vietnam history by 30 June 1975. As you can well imagine,
the volume of available documents -- in CIA alone, not to
mention related materials in the Departments of State and
Defense -- is enormous. A further task will be careful
interviewing of the large number of Agency personnel who
have played important roles in Vietnam; many are still Staff
Employees, either at Headquarters or overseas, and many others,
who have retired, live in metropolitan Washington or within
reasonable distance.

        4. It will be a very real disappointment to me if
I must leave CIA before I have been able to complete a
creditable account of activities which for the past 15 years

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have absorbed so much attention, manpower, and money. On
personal grounds I hope that the decision with regard to
the History Staff may be changed or that I may stay on for
a time, as a contractor. In the face of increasing financial
stringency and new Agency priorities, however, I cannot in
good conscience protest a decision to terminate my project
before its completion.

STAT

History Staff

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